

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Takayuki Suzuki	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	To be assigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	17053
<b>For:</b>	MEDICAL INSTRUMENT	<b>Dated:</b>	September 24, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0068946 A1, published June 6, 2002, issued to Kortenbach et al.;
2. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0138086 A1, published September 26, 2002, issued to Sixto, Jr., et al.;
3. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0198537 A1, published December 26, 2002, issued to Smith et al.;

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: September 24, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli


4. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0198538 A1, published December 26, 2002, issued to Kortenbach et al.;
5. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0198539 A1, published December 26, 2002, issued to Sixto, Jr., et al.;
6. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0198540 A1, published December 26, 2002, issued to Smith et al.;
7. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0198541 A1, published December 26, 2002, issued to Smith et al.;
8. U.S. Publication No. US 2002/0198549 A1, published December 26, 2002, issued to Sixto, Jr., et al.;
9. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-279418, published October 10, 2000;
10. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 11-509132, published August 17, 1999;
11. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 8-509623, published October 15, 1996; and
12. International Publication No. WO 99/45847, published September 16, 1999.

Applicants are submitting copies of references 9-12. References 1-8 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. Reference 9 has been cited in the specification.

References 9-12 was cited in an International Search Report dated January 14, 2003. Applicants are submitting copies of references 9-12, together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of references 9-12 has been described in the Search Report.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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